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ABSTRACT

This month-by-month calendar of suggested sensory activities is intended to be part of the science curriculum in kindergarten and the primary grades. It takes advantage of the child's natural interest in examining the world around him. Lists of natural and man-made objects appropriate to each school month are divided according to the sense to which they appeal most. (KM)

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
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Year-Round Sensory Activities

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Participants at
Shippensburg Summer Conference
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Compiled by
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Division of Early Childhood Education
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On Sensory Experiences

Sensory experiences were at one time both incidental and accidental activities of the early childhood program. Today, however, as planned components of science, they are a distinct measure of quality in the kindergarten-primary grades.

Children, of course, like to explore and examine. They want to know about animals, plants, energy as well as weight, taste, odor. They are intensely interested in the manipulation of anything from the natural world. Sensory activities, either of short or long duration, actually deal with many aspects of science and can be as inclusive as teacher and children desire.

Although dimensions of sensory experiences are unlimited, certain activities seem to appeal to many young children. Given the opportunity, youngsters will move quickly from one item of interest to another, working briefly but intensely until they have explored them all.

Sensory programs do need to allow for incidental contributions but the basic program should be organized and not fragmentary.

As a beginning, the following list suggests selected monthly activities that appeal to young children.

Charlotte G. Garman
Editor

SEE	FEEL	HEAR	SMELL	TASTE
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New friends 2. New environment - school building and grounds 3. Fall flowers 4. Apples of various colors 5. Collections of classmates - e.g. - sea shells, dolls 6. New T.V. shows 7. Different teaching materials, e.g., filmstrip projector, tape recorder, etc. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New clothes for school (new shoes) 2. School tools - chalk, crayons, scissors, different types of paper 3. Pine cones, acorns, chestnut burrs, walnuts 4. Different play-ground equipment 5. Smooth apples, nubby apples 6. School walls, interior, exterior 7. Green pine cones 3. Peaches 9. Rhythm sticks 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sounds in the classroom 2. Birds flying south 3. Cafeteria sounds 4. Hall sounds 5. Playground sounds 6. Fire alarm for fire drill 7. Rhythm sticks 8. Records 9. Piano 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Objects in classroom - clay, magic marker, paint 2. Cafeteria aromas 3. Snack time treats 4. Nurse's office 5. Fall flowers 6. Fall fruits (apples, peaches) 7. Vinegar made from apples 8. Cider 9. Grapes 10. Pine cones 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apples - all kinds - tart, sweet, hard, soft, dry, juicy 2. Grapes, grape juice 3. Honey 4. Raw vegetables - carrots, celery, onion, potatoes, lettuce, cabbage 5. Peaches, peach jam 6. Apple products, apple jelly, apple butter, (on saltines!) apple dumplings (that children have made), apple sauce 7. Cider

SEE	FEEL	HEAR	SMELL	TASTE
1. Leaves changing color	1. Crisp, cool, clear air	1. Sounds of leaves falling, blowing, being stepped upon, being raked, burning	1. Spices, e.g., cinnamon, clove, ginger	1. Applesauce
2. Seeds and nuts	2. First frost		2. Burning leaves	2. Cinnamon on applesauce
3. Falling leaves	3. Fuzzy caterpillar	2. Real sounds heard at Halloween season - owl, cat	3. Moth balls	3. Popcorn (made in the classroom)
4. Leaves raked into piles	4. Seeds (make in to seed pictures)	3. Make-believe sounds of Halloween - witches, ghosts, etc.	4. Candies, cookies and other treats given at Halloween	4. Different nuts - English and black walnuts, raw and roasted peanuts
5. Squirrels storing food	5. Leaves used for crayon rubbings	4. Dried gourds used as rattles and other noise-makers.	5. Popcorn	5. Corn bread or corn muffins
6. Grass turning brown	6. Cleaning a pumpkin	5. Columbus Day songs	6. Weeds	6. Spice cookies, gingerbread cookies
7. Frost	7. Bobbing for apples	6. Leaf collector	7. Pine Cones	
8. Football games	8. Warmer and heavier materials in clothing		8. Pumpkin Pie	
9. Flags on Columbus Day and Veterans' Day	9. Rhythm instruments		9. Jack-o-lantern	
10. Indian corn, field corn, popcorn, strawberry corn	10. English and black walnuts, acorns			
11. Pumpkins, gourds	11. Indian feathers			
12. Halloween costumes				
13. Weeds				
14. Dead gardens				
15. Leaf collector				

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SEE	FEEL	HEAR	SMELL	TASTE
1. Bare trees and brown grass	1. Dried weeds (made into fall centerpieces)	1. Sounds of various birds: • turkey • pheasant • wild geese • duck	1. Sweet and sour odors from foods, e.g., syrup and pickles	1. Pumpkin pie
2. Cornstalks made into a cornshock	2. Different kinds of feathers: • pheasant • turkey • chicken • bird	2. Gunshots	2. Incense	2. Mincemeat
3. Hunters in the fields	3. Fresh fruit and dried fruit	3. Drums and other Indian instruments	3. Turkey baking	3. Smoked meats, e.g., dried beef, ham
4. Items collected from hunting (tails, feathers, skins, etc.)	4. Cold wind	4. Thanksgiving songs		4. Cranberries
5. Pheasants and deer in open fields.	5. Snow	5. Marching bands		5. Dried fruit and corresponding fresh fruit
6. Preparations for winter weather: • snow fences • furnaces working • smoke in chimneys	6. Animal hides and leathers	6. Wild geese going south		
7. Turkeys - on a farm, in the grocery store, on the dinner table	7. Various kinds of tree bark			
8. Thanksgiving cornucopia				
9. Fall sky				

SEE	FEEL	HEAR	SMELL	TASTE
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Many types and sizes of ever-green trees decorated for Christmas Different kinds of tree ornaments Tinsel in strands and garlands Nativity scenes Homes decorated Wreaths Candles Lights Poinsettias Bells Sleds Santa Claus Toys Reindeer Elves Candy & cookies Ice skaters Winter sky 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Pine needles, other ever-greens Ornaments Bows (velvet, satin) Packages of many shapes and sizes Santa's beard and belly Soft, fluffy toys Holly and mistletoe Holiday spirit 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Bells Toy trains Caroling Holiday greetings Christmas stories and songs Chimes Santa's "Ho, Ho, Ho!" Hustling, bustling shoppers Skates scraping on ice Salvation Army street bells 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Peppermint candy Scents of pine and bayberry Freshly baked cookies Flavorings, e.g., vanilla, chocolate, almond 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Gingerbread cookies Fruit cake Citrus fruits - oranges, tangerines, grapefruit Egg nog

SEE	FEEL	HEAR	SMELL	TASTE
1. Icicles 2. Ice melting 3. Breath freezing 4. Tracks in the snow 5. Frost on windows 6. Snow-covered trees 7. Winter birds 8. Snow plows 9. Snowmobiles 10. Skiers 11. January sky	1. Icicles 2. Shape of mittens and of gloves 3. Cold, numb fingers and toes, ruddy noses 4. Pullover caps (mask-type) 5. Chilling winds 6. Paper snowflakes 7. Packed snow, loose snow 8. Ice	1. New Year's celebrations - balloons breaking 2. Sounds of snow plow and snow blowers 3. Scraping ice off windshields 4. Chains on tires 5. Sleds coasting on snow 6. Skaters 7. Winter birds, e.g., chickadee, junco, cardinal	1. Sauerkraut 2. Fuel burning for heat - logs, coal, oil, gas 3. Cold medications 4. Wet mittens 5. Vanilla (to be used in ice cream)	1. Hot chocolate with marshmallows 2. Maple syrup 3. Homemade ice cream

SEE	FEEL	HEAR	SMELL	TASTE
<p>1. Valentine's Day decorations</p> <p>2. Mailmen busily delivering cards</p> <p>3. Artificial flowers</p> <p>4. Flags on Washington's and Lincoln's birthday</p> <p>5. Silhouettes of Lincoln (on penny) and Washington</p> <p>6. Groundhog</p> <p>7. Lindberg's "Spirit of St. Louis"</p> <p>8. Electric lights in honor of Edison</p> <p>9. Snowdrops</p> <p>10. First pussy willows</p> <p>11. Sky clouds</p>	<p>1. Various textures of valentines - satin, velvet</p> <p>2. Raised silhouette of Lincoln on the penny</p> <p>3. Artificial flowers - plastic, tissue paper, silk</p> <p>4. Coughing</p> <p>5. Wigs (George Washington type)</p> <p>6. Lace</p> <p>7. Early pussy-willows</p> <p>8. Postman's bag</p>	<p>1. Patriotic stories of Lincoln and Washington</p> <p>2. Words expressing affection</p> <p>3. Stories of Edison, Lindbergh</p> <p>4. Patriotic records</p>	<p>1. Cherry pie</p> <p>2. Perfumed cards</p> <p>3. Valentine candies</p> <p>4. Candy cherries</p>	<p>1. Cinnamon hearts compared to other candies</p> <p>2. Cherry flavored jello</p> <p>3. Cherry flavored cool-aid</p> <p>4. Candy cherries</p>

SEE	FEEL	HEAR	SMELL	TASTE
1. Mud after snow has melted 2. Kites flying 3. Insects and birds 4. Buds on trees 5. Grass sprouting 6. Pictures of leprechauns 7. Lions - lambs 8. Buds on trees 9. Trees blowing 10. Shades of green 11. Clouds, longer daylight	1. Wind 2. Mud 3. Warmer weather 4. Seeds and soil 5. Flower bulbs 6. Paints to make shades of green 7. Potato prints	1. Wind 2. Birds 3. Irish music 4. Early farm sounds	1. Damp air 2. Seeds and bulbs	1. Sample dehydrated foods spacemen eat: • Tang • Instant hot cereal 2. Irish potatoes

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SEE	FEEL	HEAR	SMELL	TASTE
1. Colored eggs 2. Easter bonnets 3. Flowers sprouting and blooming 4. Birds nesting 5. Rain & umbrellas 6. Ploughed fields 7. Baby animals - ducks, chicks, rabbits, lambs, puppies, kittens 8. Frogs and tadpole eggs 9. Wildflowers 10. Blossoms 11. Worms after rain 12. Puddles 13. Rivers & streams rising 14. Dew in morning 15. Garden tools 16. Long daylight	1. Rain 2. Splashing in puddles 3. Pussy willows 4. Warm sun 5. Easter grass & woven baskets 6. Blossoms 7. Bunnies 8. Dyeing eggs 9. Dew 10. Lambs' wool 11. Freshly dug earth	1. Birds 2. Raindrops 3. Thunder 4. Squishing shoes 5. Cars & trucks splashing water on wet roads 6. Easter music 7. Tractors in fields	1. Flowers: . Crocus . Daffodils . Tulips . Forsythia 2. Chocolate Easter candy 3. Farm smells - fertilizer 4. Blossoms 5. Jelly beans	1. Hard-boiled eggs 2. Marshmallow candy 3. Dandelion leaves 4. Raindrops 5. Jelly beans 6. Chocolate Easter eggs 7. Red-beet eggs

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SEE	FEEL	HEAR	SMELL	TASTE
1. Roller skates, bicycles and other outdoor play equipment 2. Longer daylight 3. Caterpillars and cocoons 4. Bees collecting nectar from blossoms 5. House cleaning 6. Colorful spring clothes 7. Leaves, blossoms on trees 8. Maypole and streamers 9. Violets, lily of the valley 10. Azaleas 11. Forsythia	1. Tight clothes 2. Sticky sweat 3. Fuzzy green moss 4. Smooth, silky flower petals 5. Warm sunshine 6. Itching from poison ivy 7. Sting from insect bites 8. Milky dandelion stems 9. Wild flowers, violets, lilies of the valley	1. Mosquitos, bees and flies buzzing 2. May Festival and carnival sounds 3. Bell on ice cream truck 4. Baseball games 5. Swings squeaking 6. Crickets chirping 7. Roller skates	1. New mown grass 2. Lilacs 3. Fresh paint 4. Charcoal burning 5. Lilies of the valley 6. Limes, lemons	1. Crushed ice (snow cones) 2. Wild strawberries 3. Spring onions 4. Lemonade 5. Limeade